

PARADIGM INITIATIVE NIGERIA  
APRIL 2015

# 1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2015 REPORT



*Paradigm Initiative Nigeria had a fast-paced Q1 2015. PIN built on her efforts in ICT for development through events such as the Microsoft NGO Connection Day, The National Education Summit, The African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedom Conference in Ghana and the RightsCon Conference in Manila, Philippines. A total of 104 persons graduated out of our L.I.F.E Capacity Building Program in the first quarter, over a thousand were reached by our Digital Jobs Campaign with 92 trained at PIN HQ so far. 341 students from 10 University in South West Nigeria participated at the TENT Workshop in Akure Ondo State. Our ICT Policy office in Abuja made great strides training over 20 organizations from North West Nigeria at a 3-day Internet Policy Training which took place in Kaduna, working with the FCO for the passage of the Cybercrime Bill to law and on drafting of the Digital Rights and Freedom Bill for Nigerians. None of this is possible without the commitment and support of our partners, volunteers and stakeholders.*

## Ajegunle L.I.F.E

PIN's first training centre located in Ajegunle opened the year with a complete renovation of the entire space in preparation for the 2015 classes. The Entrepreneurship Room which used to sit only 20 students squeezed in has now been expanded to sit 40 at once. There has also been an upgrade in equipment and furniture at the facility. Of a pool of 60 Applicants, 40 were chosen for the first class of the year, with over 60% of the class being female. This is the first time we would have a higher percentage of female in any L.I.F.E training class.

Community Engagement is also gaining momentum as about 78% of parents and guardians of selected applicants attended the briefing organized by the Program Manager. The aim of meeting with the parents/guardians is to give them an accurate picture of PIN and the L.I.F.E training program, so that they can support their wards through the program. Many of them expressed profound gratitude at the opportunity that was being offered their children. Following the briefing with parents, PIN's Executive Director 'Gbenga Sesan; facilitated an orientation session for the incoming students. The Program Manager, Tosin Abolaji facilitated the volunteer's orientation session.



The 2015A session ran from 9th February 2015 through 26<sup>th</sup> March 2016. In first four weeks, the students were taught Microsoft Productivity Tools, Design Tools, and the Use of the Internet.

The last three weeks focused on Life Skills, Entrepreneurship and Financial Readiness. Topics taught include How to Write A Business Plan, Marketing, Resource Management, Risk management, Customer Relations, Creativity and Innovation, Time Management, Work/Office Ethics, and how to raise and manage capital for small resources. They were also trained on some time-management and work ethics during the Life Skills sessions.

Following training, the Ajegunle L.I.F.E 2015A class embarked on a community project, which involved training students of Creek High School, Apapa on Microsoft productivity tools. Since graduation, some of Ajegunle L.I.F.E alumni have started interning in various organizations. David Lawal now interns with PIN HQ, Tosin Ikuyinminu at ArchVision Limited, Gabriel Jimoh at DHL, and Henry Ucheagwu at the United Kingdom Trade and Investment (UKTI) Department. Ajegunle L.I.F.E is also forging new partnerships, aimed at placing more of our alumni on jobs as interns or supporting their entrepreneurial aspirations. Shoppi.ng, an e-commerce platform recently rounded off groundwork in order to train about 15 of Ajegunle L.I.F.E alumni who are going to gain internship placements following their training.

Ajegunle L.I.F.E was also represented at Google's Safe Internet Day 2015. 11 of the PIN trainees were in attendance. 6 of our alumni continue to volunteer with Women in Technology(W-Tech), while a fresh pool of 10 have signed up as PIN volunteers. We continue to deeply appreciate our volunteers, who continuously and selflessly give their time and commitment to facilitating classes for L.I.F.E training program; Jide Adeyemi of Huawei Technologies, Niyi Ogunkunle, Sunday Ogunade, Segun Awolowo , Femi Darabidan, Ademola Adeoye of World Impact Network, Alfred Kounaghe, Favour Dakoru, Ebitimi Joshua, Olalekan Taiwo, Joel Hude, Godswill Nwosu, and Joshua Nwosu, thank you!

## Aba L.I.F.E

Aba L.I.F.E 2015A class rounded up on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 2015 with 67 graduating students out of the 70 admitted into the training. 100 people had initially applied. Those graduating from the training received their letters of completion with excitement and could not wait to take on opportunities that would arise on account of the brand new skills they had acquired. 18 of the 2015A students who had never touched a computer before joining the training went ahead to sit for the Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB)'s Computer Based Test for entrance into university and had a score above the pass-mark of 200, with the help of the training they had received from the Aba L.I.F.E. Program.

The Aba Innovation Centre opened for the year 5<sup>th</sup> January, with the call for applications. A new member of staff, Nenty Owoidighe; a computer science graduate of Abia State Polytechnic also joined the Aba Office as Program Assistant (Intern). Activities for the first month also included volunteer recruitment and community engagement for the 2015 training sessions. There were school visits and radio campaigns sensitizing the community about PIN's activities for the year.



2015A Trainees with Members of PIN Staff

In the quarter, 6 persons volunteered along with PIN staff to deliver the training. The orientation for parents and guardians, students and volunteers took place from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2015. The training ran from 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2015 through 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Students learnt in those 7 weeks to use Microsoft Productivity Tools (Word, Excel and PowerPoint), Design Tools, the Internet, Entrepreneurship Skills, Financial Readiness and Life Skills.

On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January, the maiden Aba L.I.F.E Alumni meeting held as part of efforts to keep track of the progress of the alumni. 20 of those who were trained in the only session in 2014 are now gainfully employed. 16 of them continue to help their parents and guardians improve their businesses through the skills they have acquired. One of the trainees, Ikechukwu Nwaku has started on a digital job through the Elance platform and is earning money online.

## T.E.N.T PROJECT

The first edition of the 2015 the TENT (Techie. Entrepreneurial. Nigerian. Talented) Workshop which took place from 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> March gathered 341 students from 10 tertiary institutions in the South-West region of Nigeria. Participating schools included the Federal University of Technology Akure, Adeyemi College of Education, Ajayi Crowther University, Federal Polytechnic-Ede, Federal Polytechnic-Ado-Ekiti, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic, Afe Babalola

University, Tai Solarin University, University of Benin, and Obafemi Awolowo University. The 2-day workshop featured 'Gbenga Sesan (Executive Director, Paradigm Initiative Nigeria), Deji Aladejebi (Software developer and Founder, Dabar Objects) and Olusola Amusan (Citizenship Manager, Microsoft Nigeria) as speakers.

341 participants attended the day 1 of the workshop at D-Rock Hall in Akure and benefited from seminars on Software Development, floating tech Start-ups, and Online work. There were also break-out sessions on these topics. 197 students attended the students' ideas exhibition on day 2 of the #TENTWorkshop. After the presentation, 3 outstanding project ideas were selected by the judges from amongst 20 others. Projects 'Smart Purse' by Okewande Olanrewaju, 'Embedded systems' by Omojola Kazem and 'Apartment Finder' by Daniel Anthony were among the best ideas. The result of their hard work earned them free mentorship and business opportunities; as well as priority access to future TENT events that will be organized in other regions of Nigeria.



## TENT@SCHOOL

TENT meet-up with students who signed up for TENT@School at the Obafemi Awolowo University (O.A.U) Ile-Ife, Osun State, Nigeria took place 4th February 2015 at the Computer Science department of the school. The meeting had 14 students in attendance. Discussions ranged from funding needs, requirements and records to reports, internship placements and progress on their current projects. PIN pays an amount of money to the students for their project development on a monthly basis for the development of their projects.

PIN was invited to the occasion of the Electrical and Electronics Departmental Week in OAU and aside emphasizing the benefits of TENT@School to more students, it was also an opportunity to network in order to bring more investors and mentors into the TENT@School project as owners and senior HR Managers of certain leading technology companies in Nigeria were also present at the event.

## DIGITAL JOBS CAMPAIGN

The Digital Jobs campaign is an awareness campaign aimed at informing high-potential young Nigerians about the opportunities of legitimate online work. This campaign also features training on most required online work skills at no cost to the beneficiary. Ahead of the start of training for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, PIN recruited a pool of experts as volunteer trainers. Some of these include Adebola Oni, David Ogunmuyiwa, Oluseun Onigbinde, Victor Ekpott, Femi Bayode, Olumuyiwa Bada, and Fola Raheem.

In January, more people indicated interest to be trained by registering on the website ([www.pinigeria.org/digitaljobs](http://www.pinigeria.org/digitaljobs)). In particular, 92 more people signed up to be trained in different skills including Project Management, Writing and Translation, IT, Web & Mobile, Marketing & Sales, Design and Multimedia, etc. Trainees were also coached and given further study material about how-to-succeed doing online work. Those who were unable to attend classes as scheduled in quarter one have been re-scheduled for the next quarter.

Outreach efforts on the Digital Job Campaign within the quarter also includes the 'HCCC Jobs Fair' which had over 200 people in attendance out of which 67 signed up for online work, 'Made in Nigeria'- a workshop on career development for young people where about 50 people were reached through presentation and distribution of project brochure. The project also released a theme song by three popular Nigerian artists; Olamide, Ice-Prince & Phyno as well as a short animated video in order to spread the awareness and drive the point of digital jobs home.

PIN's training and support facility at their Headquarters in Yaba continues to provide much needed support for would-be online workers as part of efforts to reduce unemployment and poverty amongst Nigerian Youth.

# ICT POLICY OFFICE, ABUJA

25 representatives from Civil Society Organizations that work around the theme of ICT for Development and those who rely heavily on the use of the Internet for their work for Human Rights and/or Freedom of Expression, and media institutions from North West Nigeria gathered at the Asaa Pyramids Hotel from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March. The workshop was taught by a team of experts, and also featured daily panels and discussions on advocacy strategies, technology tools, and discussions around next steps for participants. Among other sessions, PIN's Executive Director, 'Gbenga Sesan facilitated sessions on Internet Infrastructure and Main Actors, discussions on Internet Development and Local Actors in Nigeria and ICT Policy in Nigeria with emphasis on policy, laws, and legislative processes. There were also conversations on critics and gaps in the Cybercrime 2014 bill and efforts to see it is passed in the current national assembly. A Case Study on Security versus Privacy was also debated. Ronald Kakembo of the Frontline Defenders took a Master Class training on Digital Security.

## NetRightsNG

NetRightsNG, a coalition of Civil Society Organizations in Nigeria advocating for the speedy passage of the Bill (with PIN as its HQ) made an appearance at the famous Social Media Week event in Lagos from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2015. The event featured a panel discussion that featured Nnena Nwakama of World Wide Web Foundation, PIN ED 'Gbenga Sesan and Joachim Macbong, a media consultant. The event served to update participants on the activities of the coalition and the importance of Internet Freedom in Nigeria.

On March 10, 2015 in Abuja, Paradigm Initiative Nigeria's ICT Policy Office brought together a group of legal, technical and academic experts to review a draft of Digital Rights and Freedom Bill. Thereafter, a Legal Consultant was engaged in order to effect final editing on the Bill. A press conference focusing on the final draft has been slated for 16th April.

## CyberCrime Bill 2014

The Policy Office organized a workshop and round-table for bloggers and opinion leaders focused on the Cybercrime Bill 2014, 22nd of January 2015. These events which held simultaneously in Abuja and Lagos was attended by bloggers, opinion leaders/cybersecurity experts, technical experts, and representatives from agencies of government such as the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission, Ministry of Justice, National Information technology Development Agency (NITDA), ITEC representatives, and the UNDP. Conversations focused on controversies currently surrounding the bill and efforts to ensuring that the Bill is passed without hurting the internet freedom in Nigerian. Action areas from the engagement included creating and promoting awareness online regarding the importance of the Bill, highlighting the role of government, and continuously monitoring developments.

February 24<sup>th</sup> 2015, the Cybercrime Bill passed Second Reading at the House of Representatives on. Hon. Mulikat Akande Adeola(Ogbomosho North, South/Orire), sponsor of the Cybercrime Bill in the lower chamber of the National Assembly moved the motion for the Second Reading. It was seconded by Hon. Abdul-Wahab Isa of Ilorin East/South. The ensuing debate was met with immediate support from the floor, leading to the passage of the bill barely ten minutes later. The bill has been referred to the joint committee on Justice and Communication Technology.



A team of Legal, Technical and Academic Experts at Bill Review in Abuja

### Freedom of Information Litigation

PIN has commenced legal action at the Federal High Court in Abuja, against the National Identity Management Commission on the Freedom of Information Request denial. On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014, PIN had written to the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) on behalf of itself and the Public and Private Development Centre and in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2011, requesting for copies of all documents relating to Procurement and Contract for the Provision of Payment by Mater Card for General Multi-purpose Card including the grant document and the grant agreement between MasterCard and NIMC, contract currency, the effective(start) date of the contract and the end date of the contract, the terms and conditions of the contract, payment schedule, the payment terms, among other things. This legitimate request was however not conceded by the Commission despite several follow-up and reminders to that effect. The matter was slated for hearing on 21st April, 2015.



## Conclusion



PIN's programs reached a moderate estimate of about **1 938** people **directly** during the quarter, with over 90% of them within PIN's primary target age group of 15 through 28. We wish to specially appreciate all partners who continue to support in many ways to sustain PIN's projects, we say a HUGE thank you. As a volunteer-driven organization, we could not have had a great quarter without the support of our amazing partners, alumni and volunteers!